(2) That the manufacture of bever

clients, the hotels, should not be per-

mitted to serve to their guests these

gerous drinks.

healthful and in no ordinary way dan-

(4) That there is no reason why the

large revenues which might accrue to

the Federal Government, the State Gov-

ernments, the municipalities, counties

and towns from the sale of beers and

light wines should not now go to the re-

lief of the individual taxpayer in the

awful demands that are being and must

tion that is now before them in the form

in which it is before them is a doubt

ful proposition and if a result can be

THE SIBERIAN OUESTION.

Mr. Maurice Leon's Suggested Plan of

Operations on the Eastern Front.

while they make it a point of honor to

justify those who esteem and trust them,

with them, as with most people, mis-

he treated as a nation incapable of dis

The situation calls for a positive rathe

than a negative attitude on the part of

the United States. Instead of merely

invite Japan to do likewise." For we are

its effective participation in the common

utilized on the western front because it

ticipation must prove most effective.

front Such a declaration to nac-

American forces having accepted the

the eastern front are subject to the same

Great Britain to serve as representatives

MAURICE LEON.

without fear.

New York, March 12.

SELF-SACRIFICE, TOO.

It Is a Virtue Companion to "Honor

Courage and Self-Rellance."

long ago from reading your paper

concluded that you taught the most

and lasting democracy is impossible

Spring Zephyra.

From the Epringfield Union

trary are futile, in fact injurious.

stand for Federal prohibition?

NEW YORK, March 12.

German aggression.

such way as this:

refusing to assume responsibility" we

be such as might easily be foreseen.

should think that result preferable.

NEW YORK, March 12.

hereafter be made upon him; and

gante law of the nation

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If our friends who favor us with manu-cripts and litustrations for publication was a have rejected articles returned they mus-tall cases and stamps for that purpose.

TELEPHONE, BEEKMAN 2200.

A Mystery of Classification.

We wonder why it is that the leg-Islators at Albany who profess a desire for instruction by popular vote before committing themselves as for or against this Federal Prohibition amendment are promptly counted with the "wets" in all the numerical estimates of the division of votes.

That is not quite just to the gentlemen concerned. They are not saying that they will vote against prohibition after a referendum has disclosed the fact that a majority of the citisens of New York State favor prohibition. They are by no means labelling themselves as "wet." They are merely attempting to postpone action on the amendment until some future time by referring the question to the decision of those to whom the Constitution does not entrust the decision, and thus relieving of immedi ate responsibility the very persons to whom the Constitution does entrust the decision, namely, themselves.

It might be proper to put the referclass, but it is unfair, as we have rethe list of the "wets."

Nevertheless, this prevalent error of classification is mighty significant, when you come to think about it.

Naming Our New Ships.

ber-to be constructed for the Government- by the American Interna- schemes to be manifested. He was tional Shipbuilding Corporation was not afraid to risk the existence of recently undertaken by the wife of his Ministry upon the test. It was The list is almost entirely made up the man's mental and physical fearof Indian appellations, Mrs. Wood-lessness, that he expressed the postnow Wilson being, according to the tion of France. In "an unlucky mo den' of the aboriginal inhabitants of ceedings in the Chamber, M. RENAU-Skunkscut and Suspecough.

It is interesting to inquire into the What he said was as follows; etymology, derivation or origin of some of these designations. Red with the British in the Revolution, so as to be honored by receiving a and sided with the Americans in the phers praise him as an Indian orator last quarter of an hour will be ours." and statesman; others denounce him as a hypocrite and coward. The weight of authority, however, favors the view that he was rather a noble sort of savage.

The first name on the list which we are able to identify as of New York origin is Sagaponack, which now belongs to a post office in the town of Southampton on Long Island, situated on a tract of land thus designated by the Indians, south of the ban against killing carp has been Sag Harbor. It means "a place where lifted, and there comes with the an big ground nuts grow," as interpreted nouncement the pleasing assurance In the late WILLIAM WALLACE TOOK- that the same privilege of extermina-EE's work on "Indian Place Names tion will be soon extended to other on Long Island." Sagaponack was places in the State. once a resort of wolves, animals ward for killing wolves there.

dack and Schoharie and Shawangunk library, and what our American anof the Hudson ten miles below Al- home waters.

of us are old enough to remember used to call the monitor Minntonomoh "My Aunt Don't Know Me."

Shinnecock is one of the most familiar Indian place names on Long But the vile, slimy, mud grovelling Island and, as nearly us can be made carp has just about exterminated our out, signifies a tract of level land, fine river bass now. Not in fair fight, Troken says it first appears in the of course. One able bodied American Indian deed of Southampton executed river bass would clean out a whole in 1640. We have not been able to shock unit school of carp and turn Slickshinny, unless it is another form carp legislation would long ago have of Shikshichena, the name of a band of the Upper Yankton Sloux, which is given in the Government manual ns meaning "bad ones of different kinds." It does not seem likely, however, that she would choose a name having such an unpleasant signification. Sailors would be apt to shun s ship named "The Bad 'Un."

Other singular selections on the White House list of ships' names are Suspecough and Skunkscut. Is Suspecough pronounced Suspecoff or Sussecow? And what in the world does Skunkscut stand for? We know that goes to the nearest sewer mouth and the word skunk was applied by the wallows and swallows there, a swim-Kennebeck Indians to the polecat, but we cannot believe that any derivative off on another baby killing raid. therefrom has been knowingly chosen States.

A Strong and Confident France.

On his arrival in France NEWTON D. BAKER, the American Secretary of War, could have still heard the echoes of Premier CLEMENCEAU's speech in the French Chamber. Its note of deflance to the enemies of the republic and its expression of his own determination and that of the nation to "continue the war to the last quarter of an hour" must have given an assurance of the faith of the French people in the position of France and the outcome of the struggle.

CLEMENCEAU, more than any other Premier that France has had since the war began, expresses the spirit of France, that spirit of determination which gives strength to the French line and which made possible the victory of the Marne and the repulse of overwhelming German force

at Verdun. The bravery of the Freuch people and the soundness of their national integrity have never been questioned. The weakness has been political. Four war Cabinets have preceded the present Ministry. They have all been made inefficient and vulnerable by the susceptibility of lesser Ministers to the influence of

an insidious German propaganda almed at the corruption of high endum statesmen in the cunctator French officials. Risor and Paintevé. not less sincere and patriotic than marked, to register them outright in CLEMENCEAU, were unable to cope with this treachery. Old "Tiger" CLEMENCEAU neither

compromised with treason nor waited for the results of its working to create a serious peril to the nation. He pounced upon Boloism as soon as The pleasant task of selecting the he became Premier; he halted the acnames for the new ships-120 in num- tivities of Calliaux and Marry without waiting for the results of their the President of the United States, by this method, so characteristic of Journal of Commerce, "a close stu- ment," says the report of the propri, the Socialist leader, challenged of Pocahontas." Many of the names him to accept the responsibility for are familiar, such as Saco, Sauger- severe attacks upon the party, "M. ties and Schenectady; some few are CLEMENCEAU bounded to the tribune euphonious, such as Unalaska and with the vigor of a man of thirty." Unadilla; while others are simply When he quitted the tribune a resobarbarous, such as Shickshinny, lution of confidence in the Government was voted by 400 against 75.

"There is only one thing to do, and that is to get on with the war and noth-Jacket heads the list. RED JACKET ing but the war. Bleating about peace was a famous Seneca chief who sided will not crush Prusaian militarism. War and nothing but war must be the only after which he made friends with us thought. In all wars he is the conqueror who can believe a quarter of an medal from General Washington, hour longer than his adversary that he is not beaten. I shall continue the war war of 1812. Some of his biogra- to the last quarter of an hour, for the

> There is inspiration in this for the American War Secretary now in France and for the 10,000 new American soldiers who have just arrived iant and confident France expressed its wings.

Kill the Vile Carp.

In one locality in Orange county

This will be heartening news to all which have long since disappeared angiers. The carp is an enemy alien, arrived in a French capital after crossfrom the fauna of New York; for it He was sneaked into our good Ameriis first mentioned in the town records can streams years ago, a clear case of in 1651 in an order concerning a re- German propaganda. We did not know so much about Germans and Other New York names among Mrs. German carp then as we do now. If Wilson's selections from Indian it were printable, what we have since sources are Schenectady and Scho-learned about Germans would fill a and Shinnecock. Schenectady signi- glers have learned about German carp production of "The Squab Parm," which fies "on that side of the Pinery." In would fill another. Were our anglers' the Government "Handbook of Amer- carp lore stripped of its perhaps ir. young woman engaged in moving picture ican Indians" we are told that this relevant, but comforting, expletive refers to the large number of pines decorations, it would be perhaps maformerly growing between Albany and terially reduced in volume but would rectors also, and it casts discredit, too. Schenectady. Schodack, meaning "at still remain an imposing collection the prairie," was the ancient capital of piscatorial literature, which if ing the girls in musical plays "squabs" of the Mohicans on the site where properly distributed would go far to- and chickens was bad enough. In "The Castleton now stands on the banks ward driving the last carp from our in-lustry are equally humiliated.

bany. Schoharie, which being trans. The streams of Ohio, Indiana, Illi- the middle aged women who write plays lated means "driftwood," was a Mo nois and other Western States have about us are hens-old hens. hawk village near the present Scho- been ravaged by carp until there is harie. Shawangunk is the ancient hardly a decent, self-respecting Amer-Indian name of the well known group lean fish left in them. Once they of mountains in Ulster county, locally were swarming with big, strong, clean pronounced Shon-gan. It will prob- river bass, these same Western ably be difficult to teach mariners to streams, and a mighty game customer

pronounce this name correctly. Some to handle that river bass was, even when you got him firmly hooked. He low, during the civil war, the jackles | fought every inch of the way to the landing, and then he fought some more, as incerated fingers of the un-

wary bore much testimony. liscover the source of Mrs. Wilson's them into carp hash so fast that antibeen superfluous. And nobody knows that better than Brer Carp. He never fights. He lies low. The last thing under water a carp wants is a river bass fight. But he does dote on river bass eggs. When Mr. and Mrs. Bass are away from home looking for a tussle with an open, fair fighting angler foe, then out of that camoufinge of sedimentary filth he loves so well the missionary of submarine kultur emerges and murders a help less family of millions or so little bass children in their beds. Then he ming stench, until he is ready to go

So that now when you drop your for the name of a vessel of the United | hook in one of those Western streams out of which perchance in boyhood you have pulled many a fine, fighting, clean fleshed American bass, you get slow, sodden pull and lift up a dead load of a foot or so of foul, sewage soaked Deutschland fiber Alles, Nothing lacking save the spiked belmet. Let the anti-carp crusade go on!

Breeches or Trousers for Non-Com-

batant Army Officers?

There was a note of asperity in some of the letters asking THE SUN to demand long trousers as part of to demand long trousers as part of Amendment of the Constitution each the uniform of civilians to whom com- is a declaration of individual liberty, perform any other than clerical duty. We regret to find this note in much discussion of this subject. While it commissions through social or political influence, and thereby created resentiment which is being expressed and true, too, that the commonplace desk duties they perform could be us well done if they were civil service appointees and drew civil service instead of army officers' pay, there yet may be good reason why some should not hold commissions and wear breaches. polished puttees and spurs.

There may be a reason for the martial uniforms gracefully worn by the young gentlemen drawing officers' salaries for sitting in sunny rooms overooking the romantic Potomac, lelsurely engaged in filing index cards or making press copies of form orders for bacon and condensed milk. We make the suggestion because of our desire to quiet resentment until a remedy may be applied to the injustice, if injustice exist.

The War Department may later classify these commissioned and uniformed clerks and deprive those who really are performing civil, not martial, duties of their puttees and sours, and drape their soft and graceful legs in trousers. Then puttees, whether of canvas or polished leather, will be the service, trousers to the gentler but necessary civil service.

cock. Jr., is added the very welcome report that he was not wounded in the encounter that brought him and his machine to the ground within the German lines. For a youth of his years, scarcely more than 17, he has made an unusually brilliant record of achievements. The French Government recognized his skill and daring by a varding to him the prized Croix de Guerre The keenest disappointment to this splendid young American must be the fact that he may be no longer able to render service to the cause which he had espoused with all the spirit and enthusiasm of youth.

Why doesn't the Food Administrator restaurants? Or would that let the offenders' patrons know that they must dine elsewhere for a day and thus give comfort to accomplices?

The pigeon that took twenty-four nours to fly from Washington to New there. It is the sentiment of a val- York may have had Red Tape around

> As the State Department shut Amercan tourists out of Cuba it is only fair that a loan of \$15,000,000 be made to the little republic. The amount is scarcely more than that which is an ually spent in Havana for mantillas

The Russian revolution started a year ago and it is still impossible to see the spokes of the pinwheel.

An American Secretary of War has ing a body of water in a conveyance adapted to navigation.

EVEN A SOUAB WILL TURN She Thrusts a Tender Quill at Hen

Playwrights. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A is to be seen in New York soop. As a work I protest against the insult to us who are in that profession. It insults not only the girls but moving picture dion a director who is world famous. Call- that way merely because that is the way such as those of supply and demand and

MARGARET MIDDLETON. NEW YORK, March 12. Thrift Stamps. From the Detroit Free Press. A quarter
A day
Keeps the Germans
Away.

My own view is:

authority and Federal action, MENT.

The Counsel for the Hotel Proprietors Discusses, Temperately and Tentatively, Its Various Aspects. that is, at whiskey, rum, champagne.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT! MAY have space in THE SUN to comment upon your editorial of to-day entitled Sentiment"? I ask this not only for no reason why a man in his home acc., and speaking in most disparaging myself, but for the leading hotel proprie, guests a bottle of light wine or why a man in his home acc., and speaking in most disparaging the state of the collection of the col tors of this city, who, through Mr. Bowman of the Biltmore, have consulted me as to whether or not it is worth their while or anybody's while to undertake to meet that Tremendous Force and, if so, how it might be done. Without yet answering their question I have ventured to say, platitudinous as it may be, that it is always worth while to stand and that our history from the beginning a good court before which to make an onest fight for a just and true verdict.

either contemplates nor recognizes any referendum of the sort proposed by Senator Emerson and Assemblyman Maods of ratification are by the votes of the Legislatures or by the action of a specially called convention. But you did not point out and you have ignored taken to put into the Constitution of the United States a regulation of human habit; and it does seem to a reasonable mind, does it not, that before that is erence to the people themselves, then it ple. Nobody can say that their action will, in accordance with the Constitution, amend it. Their action will simply instruct their respective Legislatures But why should not their Legislatures seek their instruction before a thing is ione that makes our Constitution not a scheme of government, with security for individual rights, but also, and in a novel way, a rule to control personal

From the First to the Seventeenth

habits?

the Constitution of the United States

missions in the army are given with and never once an abridgment of it no expectation that they shall ever Congress can make no law establishing a religion or abridging freedom of speech or of the press. It must not in terfere with the right of the people in an organised way to keep and bear is undoubtedly true that many of arms for the protection of the State these young civilians obtained their People's houses cannot be invaded for searches and seizures, as Judge Deleanty has just pointed out. Persons cannot be put twice in jeopardy, or be ompelled to testify against them- trust engenders mistrust, and should they selves, or be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. We are entitled to a speedy and a public trial, and witnesses cannot testify against us in our absence from the court room, and excessive ball shall be required of us, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted upon is when we have done a wrong and there shall be no slavery or involuntary servitude, and States shall not make laws that abridge the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States guaranteed to them all by our Constitution. And neither race nor color and previous condition of servitude shall be the excuse for denying to us, or any of us, the rights that the Constitution affords.

And in all the seventeen amendment there is no one which is not a restricion upon Congress and the Legislatures in the interest of individual liberty un ass the sixteenth may be so considered which says that Congress may tax

Now, here is a new thing. Because you think that alcohol instilled into severages and taken into people's stomachs distorts their minds, infures heir health and tends to excite them to their own and other people's harm, your on the eastern front, where Japan's parthat no such beverage may be made or token to all who observe that the mixed, and you want that to be done wearers belong to the fighting arm of by a two-thirds majority vote of about that Japan, like the United States, exten thousand men so as to control the pects nothing by way of reward in return daily habit of one hundred millions. In- for the cooperation of its forces on the luding the members of Congress and all the members of every Legislature of essery in order that the Russian people the young aviator, Thomas Hirch- our country, there are not more than may welcome the Japanese forces as that because the Constitution has made result should be done. Accordingly, the them efficient, as they have been efficient, in ordaining rules of individual unity of command at present in force over Wherty, they should now be sufficient to the Allied armies, it should be understood ordain a rule to regulate and restrict that the Japanese armies operating on

human habit. In law, perhaps, though a considerable direction. In order to give the Russian number of good lawyers are thinking the people tangible evidence that the Japa-matter over, it may be that they will be ness forces in Russian territory are there sufficient. But the question is, is that to carry out only the common purpose a right or sensible or just way to get of the Alites, the expedition should in at a reasonable solution of the liquor clude an American brigade, such French problem? I am trying to ascertain just and British forces as can conveniently how much the United States, for the be utilized and a staff of officers of the payment of its expenses, and each State. armies of the United States, France and each county in each State, each municipality and township in each State, for of the Allied War Council which directs the payment of their expenses, would all military operations of the Allies, inlose in taxes if this Pederal amendment cluding those on the eastern front. On passes. I have not got the figures yet, of the duties of that staff would be to but they must show that the loss will be establish relations with all Russia tremendous. You say, truly, that the forces willing to oppose the Germans and subtibition sentiment is tremendous; that insure their cooperation as part of the is manifesting itself everywhere; that Allied armies on the eastern front prohibition has never gained so fast and so considerably as during the year just past and that the circumstances of prestige and purpose in the general which have produced that result are the plan, and giving Russia needed help. war, the woman vote and the growing with assurances that she can accept feeling on the part of temperate citizens that they want to promote the war and that they have a certain sympathy with a wife's and a mother's hatred of the saloon. You put it perfectly.

But is absolute prohibition, the prohibition of beers to workingmen when they have finished a day's work, the prohibi tion of wines at dinner in homes and hotels, from the sales of which, if per- THE SUN kindly calighten at least one mitted, enormous revenues in this time of its perplexed readers? of war, when we are spending for war purposes millions of dollars a day, could be derived is this absolute prohibition worthy characteristics for man to cultinecessary to the ends that the prohibi- vate were honor, courage and self-reliionists avow? Is it just to our people? ance. Witness, for instance, your nu Is it wisely to be put into a Constitution merous protests against paternalistic which, until now, has been no other than government, your impatience with those plan of government and a bill of who excuse on the grounds of or plead rights? Is it right that such a denial low wages as a cause for moral delinsons without those other persons having, were only a few phases of your working anything to say? They might not want generalizations that "the least governed to have anything to say where, as in the people are the least governed people"; instance of every other amendment to that the mo ople are educated, the Constitution, their individual free-self-reliant and ourageous, the stronger dom of action is asserted and maintained. will be their nation; in fact, that a true But here their individual freedom of action is denied. Should this be done in otherwise; that there are eternal laws,

by which the Constitution has been here- cause and effect, for instance, and that tofore amended? I have not yet told my client, Mr. Bowman, and those whom he represents, whether or not I think there is any use asking you and all the other agencies through which public opinion can be informed and persuaded to be not in a hurry, to wait until all the facts are before you, and even then to wait until you have thought them over

(1) That no amendment to the Constitution will be tolerated by the Supreme Court which provides for its That turns our snifts to sneezes. (1) That no amendment to the ConTRY.

ages containing more than a certain The Non-Combatant Officers Do Their percentage of alcohol is really the

Duty: Let Others Imitate Them. thing that the people want to get athave from time to time seen upon the (8) That there is no good reason to forbid the opportunity to workingmen editorial page of your paper letters from hour, on their way home from work, or acquainted with military affairs, referring "The Tremendous Force of Prohibition at the supper table; and that there is to "uniformed slackers," "desk warriors.

> means of knowing which—require their resence behind a desk. I don't know who "Observer" is, nor do so much harm to the service. Does "Observer" think that these officers to States. The humor of the situation is whom he refers, whether they be in New York or Washington, have anything to say about where they shall be sta- the statement that railroad money tioned or why, or how long or whether was placed politically where it would

they shall be behind a desk or in the do the most good. Finally, that the advocates of the Fed-Does "Observer" realize that every eral amendment are going too far, and officer in accepting his commission, n by going too far are likely to get themmatter in what branch of the service. Southern States knew for twenty-five selves into the situation where the Supreme Court of the United States will assumes solemn obligations and duties, say that Congress has enacted and has and that so long as he wears the uniform submitted to the State Legislatures and of the United States Army he is not his the Legislatures have approved some- own master? Does "Observer" realize facts. thing which is not within the view of that these officers who crowd Washingthe American Constitution and may not ton and New York and other cities are ern politics came as an evolution and There wasn't any secret about it. be added, under its provisions, to the or-

If the provisions of the Constitution cases far from pleasant as to how an amendment can be made are to be appealed to without any refhour's notice; that not one of them can make definite plans for anything; the would seem to me that the purposes of the Constitution will be considered by to his office that he may find orders for the courts, and that the attempt to put into it something that is not within its France awaiting him, and incidentally is praying that he may? contemplation will be looked at severely. And "Observer" calls these men "desk Whether or not Congress had a right to

present to the Legislatures the proposi-I am afraid "Observer" would poor soldier. He places service to his lovernment in a secondary place. But got that satisfies public opinion without nothing rather than in trying to carry this question to the test, I

out destructive work? I am writing without any sense personal injury, because I have been in active field service ever since war was declared. I hope to continue to be, but if I should ever be detailed to a desk I hould like to meet "Observer" and ask him why these officers so annoy him and incidentally judge for myself just To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The how patriotic his feelings are. KINSLET W. SLAUSON, Japanese are a highly susceptible people ;

Lieut. I. M. C., U. S. A. WITH THE COLORS, March 11.

THE LANGUAGE WE USE.

Indiana Teaches American, but Caninterestedness, the consequences would not Hide Our Debt to English. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: which your correspondents discuss what language is used in these United States. hould face all our responsibilities and Why not go at once to the heart of the

both engaged in a struggle the object of The centre of population is located by which is the same for all belligerents on the last census "in southern Indiana, in the western part of Bloomington city. our side, namely, the defence of the liberties of the world now imperilled by

nuestion?

The first section of the "Act to es-Such a positive attitude on our part tablish a University in the State of Indiana." approved February 15, 1838, as many passes as he wanted for his fore had been asked by the town mass night be expressed to Japan in some under which the State University still The United States is sending to the operates, reads as follows:

vestern front a great army to insure That there shall be and hereby is created and established a university adjacent struggle. In return the United States asks and expects nothing by way of rethe American, learned and foreign lan-guages * * * and literature. ward, being content with the security which victory will give to its institutions

and the vindication of the principles to For eighty years this umbilical instiperpetuate which this nation was founded. The American army is being task of Americanizing our language. with the result that to-day the genuine literature we possess is that can be most effective there. The United States welcomes a like effort by Japan produced by Indiana. The economic and therefore saved, what matters it if Engshould be explicitly understood and anlish is still occasionally used for lownounced to the world in that connection brow purposes on the fringes of the

Union? In more serious vein, let me add that the eilly season seems to have set on the eastern front of journalism, Dulce est desipere in loco, but these are mighty serious times. Both France and ten thousand of them; and you hold friends. Everything likely to insure that England have contributed elements to our institutions and ideals. We have something of our own. It would be a pity if under the name of "Americanization" we should appear auxious to emphasize unimportant differences between us and them, rather than the great fundamentals that now unite us.

Do not let us be too proud to acknowledge that whatever either of them may have done to us in the past, we owe both of them a tremendous lebt. pride should lie rather in the fact that we are now so magnificently discharg-ALFRED Z. REED. NEW YORK, March 12.

CLOTHING THE DOG. Does Too Much Wool Go Into Swest-

ers for Pets! To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: In he imperative need for conservation of liere is a programme insuring for the United States and Japan perfect equality

necessaries toward which we most properly must do all in our power, would it act he desirable to deprive our favored dogs of their knit sweaters? If all the lap dogs that are dragged

protectingly on a piece of tape through our busy streets were to give up their later garment of wool, uncounted skeins could be put to a better use, and the elimination of these coverings from the market would permit the wool thus saved to be made into socks and sweaters for our men, and no one a penny the worse, except perhaps the dogs. And even they TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will might find proud consolation in the sweaters of silk with which their fond owners would doubtless provide them.

ONE WHO SAVES. NEW YORK, March 12.

A New Way to Save Coal.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I an see where real conservation of coal can be accomplished at a time when of right should be made by 10,000 per-quencies, your own long, sallant and ex-sons to bind 100,000,000 of other per-persive fight for the oper shop. Those weeks vacation, from June to September weeks vacation, from June to September of each year. Would it not be beneficial to reduce the summer vacation to about five weeks, and close the schools during of 5 or 6 per cent, on the investment. at any time during the winter months sher, fuel conservation would be ef-

> NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 12. An Optimist Gives Testimony.

H. B. I.

Positive.

feeted?

all attempts of legislatures to the con a close analogy between the Confeder-If my understanding of your principles ate fronclad Merrimac and the submarine is correct, wherein am I at fault in not of the present day. But as the forme being able to reconcile them with you was conquered just at the time when she appeared to have things at her mercy. , too, will the latter be swept from the seas by its superior. Just as sure s the earth is round, somewhere in these United States there is another John friesson conceiving a craft to overtake war garden. nd conquer the "wolves of the sea."

New York, March 12.

THE PROHIBITION AMEND. enforcement any other than Federal THEY SERVE THEIR COUNT RAILROADS AND POLITICS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.

> To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: I Acquirement of Great Political Influence by Railroad Men a Natural Result of the Manner of Evolution of the Roads.

There is probably no more amusing | the politicians found profitable to cutfeature in American politics than the pained and surprised note that comes guests a bottle of light wine, or why my temporarily or permanently-for the from many of the papers in the Southwriters of these letters certainly have no ern States over the frank and amiable admission by Milton H. Smith, pres!dent of the Louisville and Nashville I much care, but his is the viewpoint of the narrow minded civilian who does long time the custom of his road to along behind an identical contribution. take a hand in politics in the several

> enhanced by the horror with which ers the other day that political mansome of the editorial brethren view agers went around to solicit such conwith urgent requests for political sid. Did the papers and the politicians know it?

Mr. Smith has made no startling admission. He has merely told the whole country what everybody in the years or more. Particularly did the persons who now chiefly affect surprise know the full and harrowing

sent there by their Government to do not as any sudden burst of genius. work that is necessary, and in many corty years ago, when Birmingham was in swaddling clothes. Chattanooga this article that he had given thou-Does he realize that these officers are the possessor of undeveloped iron and sent from place to place often upon an coal territory and the agricultural regions were threaded by dirt roads over which the recalcitrant mule might any one of them knows when he goes drag a cotton cart if it hadn't rained recently, the leading citizens of every town organized town meetings to persuade the railroad promoter and from any member would bring a pass owner to extend their lines. In many cases the citizens of Hog

Roads subscribed to the stock of the roads to induce the building of feeders. why not let him be content in doing The railroad man was looked upon as a welcome ploneer and a public benesupport. Each community was glad to extend any privilege to the builders to get the consequent development.

The time came when the communiup by rail development prospered. They began to seek something from the roads that they once welcomed with such glee, and it became the chief joy of the rural jury when the right of eminent domain was

invoked for the taking of a needed bit of right of way. the local attorney. The several reads, acting sometimes in common and the ometimes alone, sought out must deplore the superficial way in bright young men who could get the most local enthusiasm out of their county conventions, who spoke most pleasingly upon the Sabbath to the

inswerers of the churchgoing bell and and appointed them local attorneys. They formed the basis of the rail-

followers, and the State capital found that a majority of those present and cality. participating, having trekked thither on the road's frank, were not inclined is without question. That it brought the town of Bloomington, in the county to throw stones at the hand that wrote many instances of the misuse of pro-

the willingness of the roads to mix to the press and to politics, is absurded to it that no campaign fund lacked workings is to acknowledge that one the friendly aid of the rich road. Nat- has no information whatever con traurally the roads took care of their ing the structure upon which south own interests through a system which ern politics of the post-bellum brand they had primarily started and which was erected.

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS.

Further Remarks on Supply and De- Last Week's Display Recalls a Los mand in Remote Localities.

Angeles Alarm of Fire in the '80s, TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: The TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SITreasurer of the Douglaston Civic Asso- a great many people fatied clation has much to say that is lauda- the recent display of northern lights is tory of the Public Service Commission not surprising, for it is about thirty-five in ordering the Queens Borough Gas years since a spectacle as magnificent Company to supply Douglaston with gas. blended those contributions and added Naturally, he does not refer to the fact generation has passed away and a that the order will necessitate laying younger one has appeared five miles of mains from the gas house at Flushing across the dreary marshes tion of such phenomena should fall to which separate Douglaston from the recognize an aurora, however, is a story rest of the city, at an expense which was ling; for a more typical aurora has calculated at \$70,000 in 1914, and which s double that to-day; nor does it ap- fifty years. pear to him to be material that the yield on the investment, which was estimated by the Appellate Division at to be visible to the naked eye. Suddenly about 214 per cent. In 1914, will be a rapid movement within the spot decelnothing whatever to-day, owing to huge oped and the spot disappeared. Come increases in costs.

> lasten, involving an investment which ever the western hemisphere At the would not yield a dollar of return to time a magnetic observatory was located the gas company, would add an amount in Los Angeles and the magnetic storing equal to the entire cost of the main to registered on the principal magnetomet value of Douglaston real estate, was so violent that the registration sheet The enthusiasm of Douglaston property was a complete blur. Most of the trivowners over the "bonanza" they expect to receive through the instrumentality of the Public Service Commission is not difficult to understand. It is not a case of "robbing Peter to pay Paul," but of robbing Peter to give to Paul. Why should Paul not be profuse in his expressions of gratitude and praise the pobility of his benefactor?

"Think of any part of New York city being without gas," exclaims the treasurer of the Douglaston Association. It is just as well to consider, also, that if gas mains were to be extended to every farmhouse and detached residence in Greater New York, in all its sparsely settled areas, now devoted largely to agricultural purposes, the additional investment would make it necessary to raise existing rates to all consumers even if capital could be secured for the

On the 4th of this month the United States Supreme Court held, in the Den- ernor's ver Water Company case, that a return of 4.28 per cent. on the investment is onfiscatory. According to Edward Alsworth Ross, writing in the current issue the Independent, Leon Trotzky. speaking for the Bolsheviki, said that slavery wings of the Whig and 18th they proposed to take over the factories cratic parties. Some of his surports of Russia, allowing the owners a return called themselves "Republican-The Public Service Commission is, a party name. During Clark

Bolsheviki, although there is a subtle sympathy between them. Under the cul, chemical and medical uses [1,9] circumstances the association's characterization of the gas company as a May, 1856, when the Court of Victoria "Prussian gas aristecracy" is easily declared it unconstitutional comprehensible. The instinct to detaine the victim who is to be despoiled is a part of human nature.

One of the advantages in raising rabbits instead of chickens is that the rabbit won't fly over the fence into friend neighbor Another advantage Rabbit don't wake up at break o' day, when sleep is most enjoyable.

Thus it came about that the Stat quiring eyes, might have ascertained that the Democratic State Committee's campaign fund in many a race bore at its head the generous \$5,000 from the Louisville and Nashville, while the from the same source.

tributions and that the legal department of the road was frequently beset

They did.

Twenty years ago a famous Kentucky lawyer was an active worker for the road and held court at Nashville. at the old Maxwell House, in quarters that were as well known and as fre-

One of the best known railroad men of the period once told the writer of sands of passes to one member of the Legislature who largely held his post the process of bringing his constituents, fare free, over the lines. Many of the members actually had blocks of blank passes that they might fill out at will, and a simple request for a friend in need.

The Louisville and Nashville was by no means alone. What it did in Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia, to say nothing of Kentucky, the Southern did from Maryland to New Orleans, with the Illinois Central tapping the valley through Kentucky, Tennessee, Missis. sippi and Louisiana, and the Missouri Pacific, the Cotton Belt, the Frisco and their neighbors handling the district west of the big river.

The lesser roads came along to join their more important friends. No more formidable political organization was ever made in the country. It controlled nominations, elections o "soak the railroad" for damages and laws. It was an element as well when a cow was killed by a train or defined and ca well known as the prohibition issue.

It was at first not considered a menace. Railroad attorneys in these With this evolution came the era of days were not classed as malefactors, and to represent a big road was a post of honor. But the incoming of the new regime brought attacks from many sides, and the roadthemselves withdrew from the activities of the earlier days to a large ex-

Reformers who had come into poliwho thereby had acquired influence, tics without being able to find favor with the established order threw stones at those who would not reroad domination of Southern politics, celve them with open arms, and the When the State convention came remarkable evolution made targets of along each local attorney might issue the very men who twenty years lemeeting to come to the aid of the

That both sides abused the system litical power is sure. But that the Candidates, taking their cue from system was a hidden thing, unknown n politics, promptly proceeded to see untrue. To pretend ignorance of its

has occurred. In that time an elde

That any one trained in the observa-

occurred in this latitude in more than

Early in the '80s an unusually large

spot appeared on the sun, large erough

cent with this disturbance there were

graph circuits were operated at that time

by batteries, and many of the lines were

put out of business by strong earth :

tents. Although, of course, it was

out the daylight period.

visible, the display and the concurre

magnetic disturbance continued through

When the red flashes first were as

in Los Angeles a general fice plants was

sounded, and a strict regard for the fact.

of the case impels me to all that I

helped to pull a hose cart up the Tem-

New York's Year of Prohibition

To the Editor of The Sus Ser D

the prohibitionists fifty or many avers

ago win a triumph in New York Foll.

Elewanie K. Leesen

and was Myron H Clark elected to

Clark, who was elected Gover-

New York in 1854, was supported -

first use of the word in this state at

the prohibitionists as well as the

the sale of liquors except for it

in operation from April, 18

ELIZABETH, N. J., March 12.

ple street hill that night

MOUNT VERNON, March 12.

brilliant displays of northern lights

DOUGLASTON'S GAS.

The extension of a gas main to Doug-

therefore, less liberal to capital than the intration a law was passed pre-

OTHER PROPER'S MONEY. NEW YORK, March 12.

A Rind Word for Brer Rabbit. From the Brenham Banner Press.

hear the corn blades rustle.

The Welcome. From the Atlanta Constituti As glad as all creation—
Lord of a little loam
That blooms into a serien
And waves a well—home

A space that blooms for "And pleasant shade of fruit times. Where springtime sweets are Thanks God, Who blessed the ground"